



NEWS RELEASE

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Proposition 34 fund-raising rules explained

Some recent news accounts regarding candidates raising contributions over the Proposition 34 limit of \$21,200 have left the impression that the Fair Political Practices Commission has endorsed some candidates' practices in this regard. The commission does not respond to inquiries regarding specific individuals, but does provide general information related to Proposition 34 and the Political Reform Act. To that end, the commission today issued this statement to clarify misimpressions left by some accounts:

1) The language of Proposition 34 delayed its application to statewide candidates until after the November 2002 election. The commission ruled in 2001 that campaign committees formed for elections held prior to that effective date are not subject to the limits of Proposition 34. However, the proposition itself, in Government Code section 85306, provided a process for "attributing" or screening campaign funds transferred from one of state candidates' controlled committees to another of his or her controlled committees.

2) Since implementing Proposition 34 in 2001, the commission has advised that state candidates may not solicit contributions into a pre-Proposition 34 committee for the purpose of using those funds in a post-Proposition 34 election. (See Proposition 34 Fact Sheet, Vol. 3, at <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/pdf/460discl3.pdf>.)

3) The commission has urged the authors of Proposition 34 to enact legislation to apply its contribution limits to committees that existed before the effective date of the proposition. Senate Bill 467, currently in the Senate Elections Committee, would provide such a limit. The commission has voted to support this measure with clarifying amendments.

4) The FPPC has not received an advice request from any candidate in the recall race regarding this issue and has not issued any specific advice or ruling to any candidates on this subject.

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